

The Pause



INSIDE

Homeless sleep-out

Geography Trip

Founder's Day

From TY to 5th year

Student Council

Poetry

Romeo & Juliet Review

Hockey

Science Week

Issue 4 winter 2k16

All of the third years homeless!

On Friday the 21st of October, the third years successfully undertook their C.S.P.E action project. Our year decided to base our action project on the concept of stewardship and to focus on the issue of homelessness, as it currently is a major issue in Ireland. The activity we chose to undergo was a sleep out in the school yard to enhance our knowledge of what it is like to be homeless. Whilst planning this, we fundraised over €160. This will be donated to a soup kitchen that provides food to the homeless in Dublin's city centre.



To the sleep out: we were allowed to bring warm clothing, a sleeping bag, cardboard, yoga mat and food to get us through the night as that is what most homeless people have to get themselves through the night. The action project started at 6.30pm on Friday evening and finished at 9.00am on Saturday morning. To distract ourselves from the night's coldness, we talked, sang and played some games. Although it did divert my attention away from the brisk weather, I was still freezing.

When it got to about 11pm we were told to settle down, go to bed and try to get some sleep. As I lay on the hard ground, I realised how hard it must be for Irish homeless people to sleep out on the streets of Dublin every night. A lot of questions started arising in my head while I was lying on the ground with my teeth chattering. My main questions were: How do they entertain themselves through the long nights? How do they sleep or even survive in the freezing conditions of winter? I was determined to stay out all night to really get an idea of some of the challenges that the homeless have to deal with, without having an option. Due to a lot of factors, no one got much sleep that night. However, we all had a cozy and warm bed to go into the following morning or evening to catch up on the lack of sleep we had gotten, but the homeless don't! They have to endure the cold and hard nights, every night, without having a safe and secure bed to go into.



Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the action project and I feel it has deepened my knowledge of homelessness. By Kaiya Reddy 3Y

3rd Year Action Project - Another view

Our 3rd year action took place on October 22nd we chose to raise awareness for homeless by having a sleep out. This really helped us get a sense of what it is like to 'sleep rough'. We helped each other get through the night with sharing a laugh and a few blankets but we realised that some homeless people don't have that option. They are all alone with nowhere to call home. In total we raised €170 for a soup kitchen based on Grafton Street. It is very heart-warming that just by sleeping in the yard for a night we can make a difference to peoples' lives and thank you to everyone who donated. - Paris Moran, 3rd year



Student Council

This year the student council has formed again. The teachers involved are Mr Kerr and Ms Lally. In the student council we talk about issues in the school and how to deal with them. We only use this environment as a way to further the school and not to point out the faults of the school. For the council each class elects one boy and one girl to represent the thoughts and issues raised by the group. Through regular meetings the council is making great strides to make the student council more influential to the students and staff in the school.

Willow Bardin, 3rd year

Choices Evening

On Thursday, November 24th the fifth and sixth years had the privilege of attending a career choices evening in St. Killians German School. This entailed students and representatives from various Irish colleges coming to speak about various courses. There was a large hall with multiple stalls. We were all free to peruse the stalls at our leisure and find out about different courses we were interested in.



All the fifth years that attended and I found this evening extremely interesting. We all thought it was so much better to talk to real people instead of trying to find out about courses online. Personally, I never realised how many courses are out there. I did not know there could be so many branches of the one subject. For example, in Art, there are dozens of interesting areas to study in art and there are so many colleges that teach each area differently.

I find it so useful that we are able to learn about all the different courses in fifth year. I think it has really made all of us think about where we want to be in two short years' time. I found the intimate environment of choices evening helpful as it was less overwhelming than the larger colleges' fairs. We all came away feeling very informed. I would recommend the evening to any fifth or sixth year. - Alison Dixon, 5th Year.

Fear The Future article

My band's name is Fear The Future. We're a pop punk band. There's 5 members in the band, myself, Maggie Tighe, Willow Hannon, Phil Foster and Bruno Fitzgerald. Maggie and I are both acoustic guitarists and lead singers, Willow plays the drums, Phil plays the lead guitar and Bruno plays the bass.

We formed in July at a music camp, and bonded over similar music tastes. We wrote two songs called 'Tumblr Girl' and 'Cheers to revenge.' They're somewhere on the internet, don't try and find them! The camp was a very interesting and fun experience and I would definitely do it again. It is great for learning skills in teamwork, because we all have our own ideas and have to work out how to put our ideas together. We are definitely not the best pop punk band but it's still a lot of fun to mess around with instruments and see what comes out. - Maria Colfer, 3rd year

Hockey

This year 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year girls and boys have embarked on yet another year of hockey. Both teams have been doing extremely well. The girls have played their first match and lost 2-1 despite playing superbly. The boys have also played their first match against Sandford Park and won 4-0. Both teams played admirably for the first match of the season. Both the girls and boys are thrilled to represent the school, and cannot wait to play in our upcoming matches.

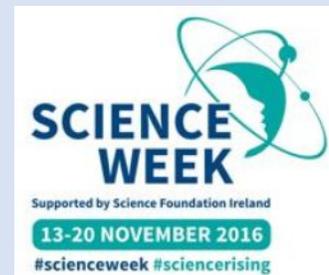


Willow Bardin, 3rd year

Science Week

The week of the 13th of November was Science Week.

"The aim of science week is to promote the relevance of science, technology, engineering and maths in our everyday lives and to demonstrate their importance to the future development of Irish society and to the economy." – This is according to science.ie, the creators of science week in Ireland.



During our Science week in John Scottus, we had assembly discussions and presentation, science competitions and many posters displayed around the school.

Mr.Brady demonstrated how a steam engine works in assembly. The steam engine was perfected by James Watt in the 18th century but it was first made in 1698 by Thomas Savery.

We held a competition where you had to find the answers to various science questions around the school and the winners were given prizes in assembly.

We also displayed some of our student's art around the school. The art reflected science week. It shows the overlap between the two disciplines of art and science.

It was, all in all, a very successful week. - Mark Mulvey, 4th year

Poem: This Moment

A golden spiral in your mind
All your troubles, left behind
And you forget the things you know
If only for a moment or so

The busy streets and busy lives
A blur of blazing hearts collide
A clap of thunder in your chest
A swarm of thoughts that cease to rest

She does her best, to keep in time
And walk along the dotted line
But never thinks to slow the pace
And spend a moment in one place

A space
Where thoughts align
Everything turns out just fine

Persephone Kianka, 5th year

R & J review

The 3rd years went to see Romeo and Juliet, directed by Kenneth Branagh, in the IFI. It was a brilliant experience to see a live screening in a small cinema. The Kenneth Branagh version was interestingly set in the 60's with flared dresses, classic sunglasses and smart suits.

The actors and actresses were very well picked for the play. With Lily James as Juliet, Richard Madden as Romeo and Derek Jacobi as Mercutio. Jacobi as Mercutio was an odd pick for the character but he was young at heart and his witty lines fitted the part very well.

The play was interestingly set in black and white for the screening to make it seem more from the 'olden times' and the set was amazing, only using large pillars to set the scenes of a cafe, a balcony, a ballroom, bedroom and street.

I would really recommend seeing it if it ever comes around to the IFI or another place again. It is such a must see, with comedy, tragedy and is very dramatic. - Maria Colfer



Founder's Day

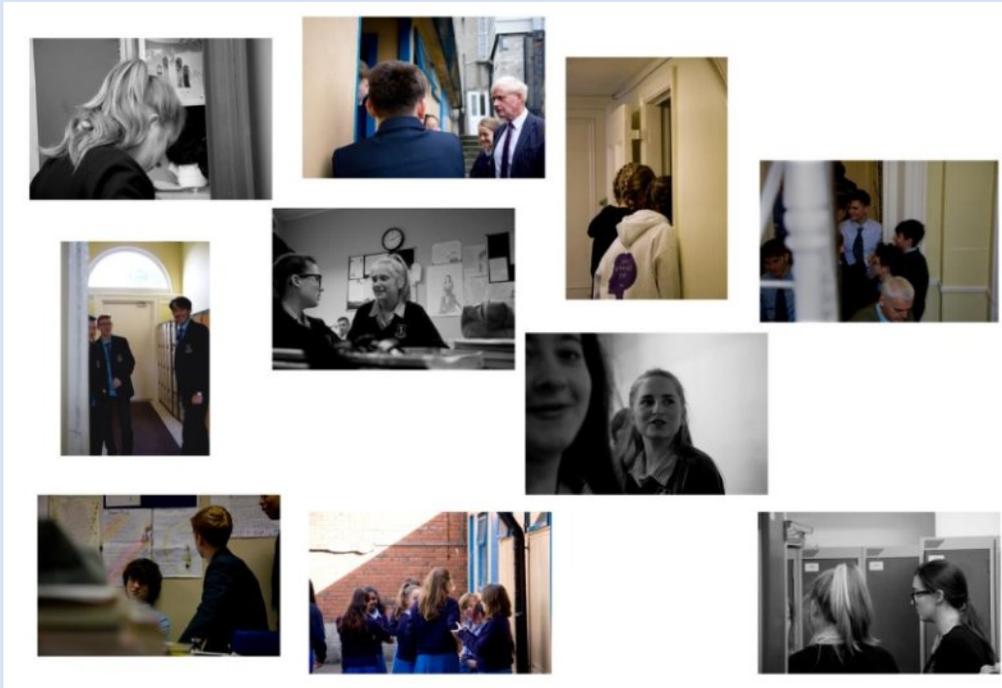
Each year pupils and teachers embark on a two day camping trip to Larch Hill, and this year was no exception. On this trip we are split up into teams consisting of pupils from each year groups. This trip is a great way to get to know everyone on team and in the school. On these trips we play games such as capture the flag and rounders. We also have a campfire at the end of the day with music played by the pupils. These camping trips are always full of fun and I feel sure the tradition of a great Larch Hill trip will continue long after I have left the school. - Willow Bardin, 3rd year



Transition Year 2016



A s



From TY to Fifth Year

Finishing your Junior Cert and going into Transition Year has to be one of the best feelings in your entire school experience. Finishing TY and going into Fifth Year? Not so much. Transition year is a time in which students are allowed to grow and develop by partaking in many exciting activities and projects. After years of being cooped up in a classroom, you are finally able to go out and get a taste of the real world. In our school, we are fortunate enough to travel to India and to put on a professional play. We spend our days sailing down the Ganges on a raft and running around the Samuel Beckett theatre in full Shakespearian attire. There is never a dull moment, and that is why returning to the daily grind can be such a shock to the system.

In Transition Year, you are able to explore and dabble in many areas of life, without any pressure, but come September, you must make a decision that could possibly determine the next few years of your life - subject choices. This is something that I found difficult upon entering Fifth Year. As I am not sure what I want to study in college, I had a lot of trouble deciding on my subjects. During the first few weeks of term, I kid you not, I sat in on every available subject, just to see what each one was like. I am happy to say that I have now chosen my subjects (Biology, Music, Art) and am really enjoying them.

To any incoming fifth years, I would advise doing some research in advance, rather than leaving it until the last minute, like I did. It is ok to be indecisive, because it can be hard to know what you want at such a young age, but just remember that there are lots of people to support you. The most important thing is to be doing the subjects that you love. - Persephone Kianka, 5th year

Geography Trip

As in every Leaving Cert year, the exceedingly magnificent 6th Year geography students had the pleasure of participating in a 'Geographical Investigation Field Study', or 'Project' for short. On the 5th of October we took the bus (for the last time) with Mr. Bond out to Kippure Adventure & Education site, though to call it adventurous would be a stretch of the imagination as it was simply a small, underwhelming river in Wicklow. Nonetheless we threw ourselves into the fray of learning and experimentation with the

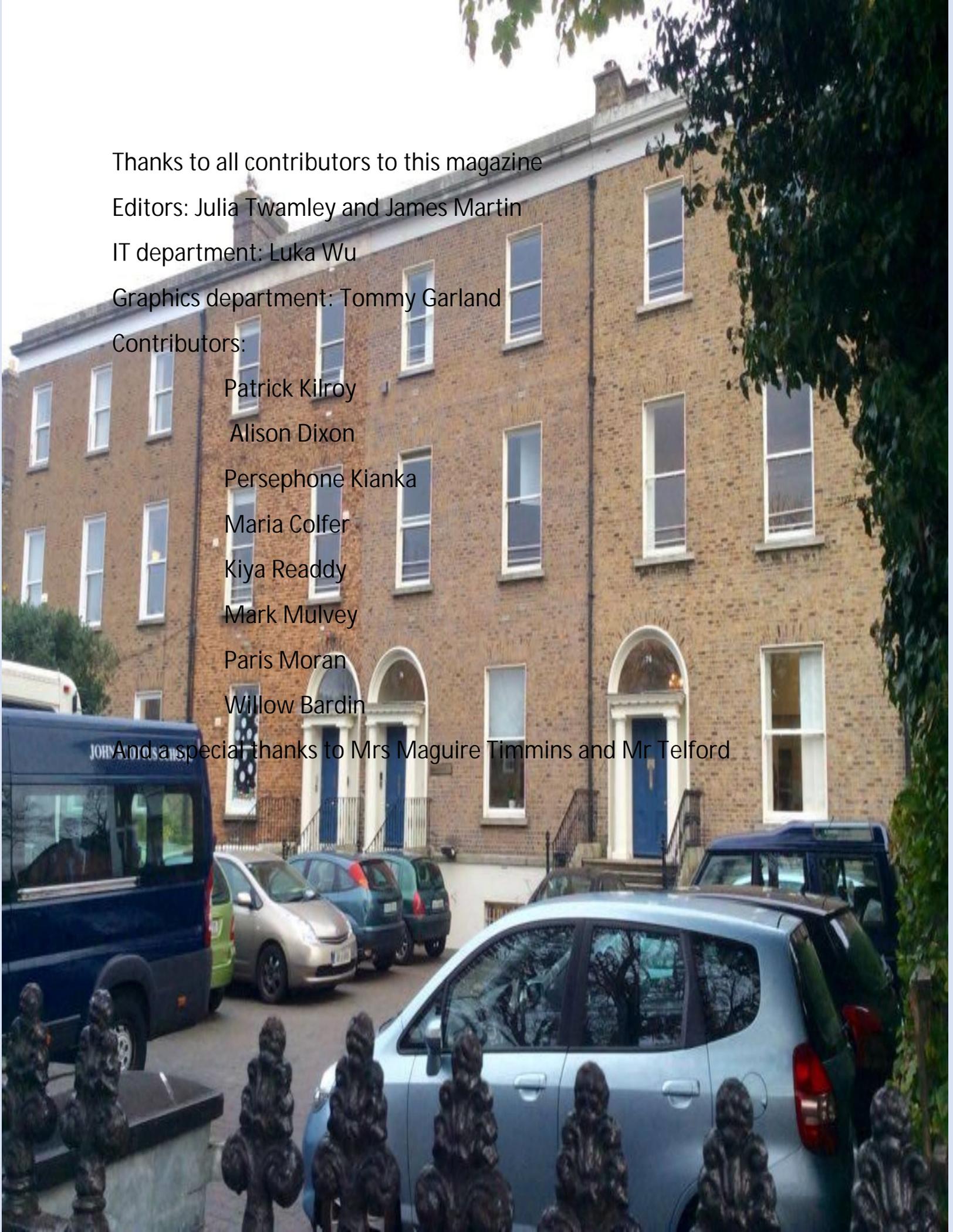


customary enthusiasm of all John Scottus students. Seeing as the project's write up was to count towards our Leaving Cert exam results we probably could've taken it more seriously than we did. During our ineffably complex and precise measurements of stones and dirt many an individual found themselves face down in a river bed or bank of grass. There was laughter and there were tears, but mostly laughter, which, disregarding its sadistic implication was the main thing.

Once we had returned to a small nearby classroom away from the river and the danger of a lawsuit, we had lunch and were driven back to the school where our eccentricities were tolerated yet not condoned. We now eagerly await the final instalment of our fluvial frolicking in which we'll hopefully secure 20% of our exam marks in a coherent abridgement of our endeavours, colourful details aside (examiners have a frail constitution). It was overall a surprisingly well planned and enjoyable experience. If only it's purpose hadn't been so



sinister. It's just as well we did it when we did, because ever since Trumpocalypse the rivers have started flowing backwards for some reason. - Patrick Kilroy, 6th year

A three-story brick building with white window frames and blue doors. The building has a classic architectural style with arched doorways on the ground floor. In the foreground, there are several cars parked, including a blue van on the left and a light blue car in the center. A decorative metal fence is visible in the immediate foreground. The sky is overcast.

Thanks to all contributors to this magazine

Editors: Julia Twamley and James Martin

IT department: Luka Wu

Graphics department: Tommy Garland

Contributors:

Patrick Kilroy

Alison Dixon

Persephone Kianka

Maria Colfer

Kiya Readdy

Mark Mulvey

Paris Moran

Willow Bardin

And a special thanks to Mrs Maguire Timmins and Mr Telford